

Illegal Souvenirs & Responsible Shopping

Help protect Oman's culture, wildlife, and heritage by making responsible choices when shopping.

What NOT to Buy

- Turtle shells, ivory, animal products
- Coral or protected marine life
- Antiquities or historical artefacts
- Religious or cultural heritage items
- Rare plants or natural materials

Important Laws

These items are protected under CITES and Omani law.

Illegal export may result in confiscation, fines, or prosecution.

Warning

Even small items such as shells or antiques can be illegal to take out of the country.

What You Can Buy

- Local handicrafts
- Pottery & textiles
- Certified silver jewelry
- Dates, spices & sweets
- Artisan-made products

Smart Tips

- Ask your guide if unsure
- Buy from trusted shops
- Avoid wildlife-based products
- Support local communities

Travel responsibly – your choices make a difference.

Customs Regulations & Travel Guidelines

According to Oman Customs, the traveler's guide provides important information regarding customs declarations, including disclosure of money, precious metals, prohibited and restricted goods, and personal items exempt from customs duties.

You can consult the official guide here:

 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tjuiSQJ_dA4Kci4pOd6sy29EBMkbjVy3/view?usp=drivesdk

Restricted Goods (Subject to Approval)

Certain goods may only be imported or exported with prior approval from the relevant authorities:

- Live animals, plants, fertilisers, and pesticides
 - Medicines, drugs, and medical equipment
 - Printed publications and media materials
 - Transmitters and wireless communication devices
 - Cosmetic and personal care products
 - Radio-controlled aircraft (drones)
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Prohibited Goods

The following items are strictly prohibited under Oman's Unified Customs Law:

- Weapons of all kinds
 - Concealed weapons (e.g. sticks containing blades or spears)
 - Firearms, including toy weapons resembling real ones
 - Military-style clothing and equipment
 - Riflescopes and night vision devices
 - Tasers
 - Natural ivory
 - Drugs and psychotropic substances
 - Explosives
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Additional Customs Measures

- Oman Customs has introduced an educational platform to enhance customs knowledge and awareness

- A QR code verification system has been implemented to authenticate official permits and documents issued via the Bayan system and prevent fraud

 Prohibited Items Guide:

 <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/6ffvy3k1vb33na367zx1x/Prohibited-Item-guide.pdf?rlkey=p5hb62y8rpyc3fdbsr88z47rj&st=a1opyyi7&dl=0>

Responsible Shopping Reminder

Travelers are strongly encouraged to avoid purchasing illegal souvenirs such as wildlife products, coral, or cultural artefacts, and instead support local communities through ethical and sustainable purchases.

**** Note: The regulations, restrictions, and guidelines outlined in this document are subject to change at any time. Travelers are advised to verify the most current rules and requirements with the relevant customs authorities before travel.*

